



300 YEARS OF FASHION



STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

Anne Rowe welcomes guests to the "Top Hats to Petticoats: 300 Years of Fashion in Edenton" exhibit on Sunday afternoon.

Group touts tourism for Golden LEAF

Pursuit of \$2M under way

By **RITCHIE E. STARNES** AND **REBECCA BUNCH**
Staff Writers

Tourism figures to be critical toward Edenton-Chowan's future economic development. Count on a few local entities to strongly pitch the idea as they pursue coveted funding from the Golden LEAF Community Assistance Initiative.

With \$2 million hanging in the balance, stakeholders are jockeying to put together a series of applications to secure their fair share of Golden LEAF funding. Education and workforce development are also considered paramount to building a sustainable foundation here that can pay dividends for a promising economic future. But, the value of future tourism keeps rearing its head as a means to cultivate revenue and jobs.

"Tourism contributes

over \$17.4 million in revenue to county merchants and \$1 million in tax revenues employing 140 people," said Cy Rich, chairman of the Edenton-Chowan Partnership. "Those tax revenues are significant and of course offset what residents would need to pay to obtain the same level of services. We have the opportunity to increase tourism revenues by 50 percent if we only increased our tourism by the annual increase experienced state-



Rich



Vaughan



Quinn

wide in recent years."

At its Nov. 13 meeting, the Edenton Town Council officially entered the sweepstakes by voting unanimously to submit proposals seeking a portion of Golden LEAF's \$2 million proceeds earmarked for Chowan County. Those projects would benefit tourism. The projects are part of an overall \$885,000 waterfront revitalization program developed by the Partnership, according to Councilman Bob Quinn, also a member of the Partnership board.

Projects identified by Quinn include creation of a Colonial wharf at the Barker House site, expansion of the building that houses the Town Council chambers to allow for a meeting room, restoration of the former county jail and jailor's house, improvements to Pembroke Creek Park and identification as a participant in the state's Certified Retirement Community program.

See LEAF, 2A

Audit brings good news

County has \$4.4M in proceeds available

By **RITCHIE E. STARNES**
Editor

Only four years removed from the brink of bankruptcy, Chowan County's fiscal recovery continues to make tremendous strides.

The auditing firm of Martin Starnes & Associates, which has been handling the county's auditing since its potential state takeover, issued another clean bill of health during Monday morning's Board of Commissioners' meeting. Among the accounting highlights, Martin Starnes' accountant Matt Braswell revealed that Chowan continued its annual commitment

to replenish its fund balance. As of the fiscal year ending June 30, Chowan had added another \$1.6 million, or 10 percent of its total annual budget, toward its fund balance. Proceeds available in the county's \$5.2 million fund balance stand at \$4.4 million.

"In this day and time, that is a large amount," Braswell said.

Chowan presently carries a fund balance that is 29 percent of its general fund.

The state recommends the board have at least three months of operating income on hand in case of an emergency.

"There was a time when that figure was in the negative," Commission Chairman Eddy

See **AUDIT**, 2A

School board to weigh term changes

Calls to reduce terms from 6 to 4 years

By **REBECCA BUNCH**
Staff Writer

When Glorious Elliott is sworn in next month as the school board's newest member one of the first votes she'll make will be on a possible change from six to four year term limits.

The change would impact Elliott as well as all of the board members, including the two others just re-elected. It's not the first time that Elliott, 61, has been affected by term rules. Prior to this election, Elliott had served 13 years on the board after she was appointed to the board in 1987 to fill the unexpired term of Billy Nixon and subsequently re-elected to two consecutive terms on the

board. "Under state law at the time, that's all the time I could serve," Elliott said. "I would have run for a third term if I could."

That law was changed in 2002 to allow school board members to serve an unlimited number of terms, according to school officials.

See **TERMS**, 3A



Bunch



Dale



Wright



Guard

CHOWAN COUNTY OFFICIAL RESULTS BY PRECINCT

PRECINCTS	E. Eden.	W. Eden.	R. Hock	C. Hill	W'ville	Y'pim	A'tee	Early Vote	Total
PRESIDENT									
Barack Obama (D)	273	254	120	115	102	146	110	2391	3556
Mitt Romney (R)	105	232	373	174	226	208	190	2372	3891
Gary Johnson (L)	0	6	10	3	4	4	2	16	45
NC GOVERNOR									
Walter Dalton (D)	260	248	121	125	112	142	109	2379	3538
Pat McCrory (R)	108	218	330	147	210	202	176	2253	3658
Barbara Howe (L)	6	11	30	7	5	7	12	56	134
US HOUSE DISTRICT 1									
GK Butterfield (D)	270	280		162		0	83	2039	2864
Pete DiLauro (R)	86	177		107		0	62	1057	1496
Darryl Holloman (L)	13	12		7		1	5	43	81
US HOUSE DISTRICT 3									
Walter Jones (R)	0		352		227	213	108	984	1888
Erik Anderson (D)	0		117		98	131	38	489	887
NC HOUSE DISTRICT 1									
Bob Steinburg (R)	100	214	334	152	206	194	180	2156	3548
Bill Luton (D)	269	262	147	128	116	154	116	2475	3711
NC SENATE DISTRICT 3									
Clark Jenkins (D)	297	310	221	169	180	199	159	2942	4522
NC SECRETARY OF STATE									
Elaine Marshall (D)	258	245	143	122	118	156	119	2468	3673
Eddy Goodwin (R)	111	228	341	160	205	194	176	2215	3641
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, AT-LARGE									
Keith Nixon (R)	151	265	375	172	225	237	206	2583	4228
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, DISTRICT 1 SEAT 1									
Emmett Winborne (D)			261	196	185		40	673	1365
Ron Cummings (R)			238	90	143		67	418	962
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, DISTRICT 2 SEAT 1									
Alex Kehayes (R)	65	193				223	90	1371	1947
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, DISTRICT 3 SEAT 1									
Greg Bonner (D)	192	108					30	906	1252
Earl Willis Jr. (R)	47	55					23	340	467
BOARD OF EDUCATION, AT-LARGE									
Glorious Elliott	226	254	141	151	108	155	107	2613	3785
Bill Moore	103	180	243	114	142	141	122	1645	2703
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 1 SEAT 2									
Jean Harrell Bunch			310	192	109		58	759	1440
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 2 SEAT 2									
Ricky Browder	81	198				193	80	1355	1917
REGISTER OF DEEDS									
Susan S. Rountree (D)	294	300	257	178	194	211	157	3263	4902
Jackie Laverty (R)	76	178	237	105	134	140	140	1436	2454
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISOR									
Richard Saunders	189	282	271	162	181	203	151	2632	4093

SOURCE: CHOWAN BOARD OF ELECTIONS



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ROCKY HOCK Opry FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH, 7:00 PM **E.A. SWAIN AUDITORIUM**
Sponsored by the Rocky Hock Ruritan's Relay for Life Team Tickets \$10.00 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST, 7:00 PM EDENTON, NC
Tickets Available at various locations or call 252-221-4875 or 252-340-3438. Email rockyhockopry@live.com